

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Reply to Comments:

First, based on the outcome of recent meetings with the landowner (WDFW), the Port of Allyn, and the North Bay Historical Society, we (SPSSEG) have decided to split the project into two separate and distinct phases. Phase I will deal with the bulkhead removal, shoreline contouring, and riparian restoration. Phase II will include the building removal. In this way, we would like to receive permits and authorization to proceed with Phase I as soon as possible. The Phase II building removal element will only be implemented in the future if approved by the DAHP through a formal cultural review permit authorization either through the Section 106 process or the E-0505 process. WDFW has granted the Port of Allyn a one-month time frame to conduct a feasibility study and report back as to whether the POA can facilitate a plan to either purchase the property or at a minimum provide a feasible restoration plan for the oyster building. Under no circumstances will SPSSEG pursue removing the building until after this one-month period is over and WDFW decides if they still support the removal of the building. In any case, SPSSEG will not remove the building without approval from DAHP and other agencies with jurisdiction.

Regarding the comments from Ecology: SPSSEG contracted a study of toxics associated with the building and none were found other than asbestos. Should we receive permission to remove the building (only if the above criteria are met) we will follow the guidelines provided by Ecology for dealing with toxic substances and treated wood.

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WDFW Comment

Unfortunately, the overwater building and adjacent bulkhead are impediments to functional fish and wildlife habitat. The building contains asbestos siding and creosote piling support. The floor of the structure is at risk of collapsing into the bay. These conditions are inconsistent with the intent of the Department acquiring the property, healthy habitats for fish and wildlife, and public safety. If an alternative option is not developed, the Department will pursue building removal.